

Minutes of the Combined Health and Human Services Board and Committee

Thursday, December 4, 2008

Chairs Paulson and Farrell called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Board Members Present: Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), Joe Vitale, Mike O'Brien, JoAnn Weidmann, County Board Supervisors Duane Paulson, Janel Brandtjen, Jim Jeskewitz, Jim Behrend. **Absent:** Citizen Member Flor Gonzalez.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Duane Paulson (Chair), Jim Jeskewitz, Janel Brandtjen, Pauline Jaske, Gilbert Yerke, William Zaborowski. **Absent:** Kathleen Cummings.

Also Present: Health and Human Services Director Peter Schuler, Health and Human Services Deputy Director Don Maurer, Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Director Cathy Bellovary, ADRC Senior Financial Analyst Steve Krafcheck, ADRC Supervisor Mary Smith, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels, Waukesha Freeman Reporter Joe Petrie. Recorded by HHS Office Services Coordinator Kathy Leach.

Pledge of Allegiance

BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Minutes of 7-21-08

MOTION: Vitale moved, seconded by Jeskewitz to approve the minutes of July 21, 2008. Motion carried 8-0.

Approval of Minutes of 7-22-08

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, seconded by Vitale to approve the minutes of July 22, 2008. Motion carried 8-0.

Future Agenda Items

Farrell announced that Oscar Medina of Medina's Gym is doing well after being treated for cancer. He suggested that we have Oscar give a presentation on his program with juveniles at a future meeting or possibly the Board and Committee can have their meeting at the Gym.

Farrell also announced that the Board and Committee have been invited to have a meeting at ACAP and/or a tour of their facilities.

Weidmann asked that Public Health Update be added to every HHS Board/Committee agenda. A further discussion of the MOU with Environmental Health regarding Human Health Hazards will be put on a future agenda.

Announcements

DeMares reported on the Medicaid inspection done at the Mental Health Center during mid-November. The inspectors are requiring some adjustments to a few policies and procedures such as organ and tissue donor policy, clarify our emergency services policy, dietary manual. The

new policies will be reviewed at the Joint Conference Committee meeting on Monday, December 8th. The engineer from the Medicaid/Medicare inspection is also asking for a few minor modifications such as adjusting some electrical locks, electrical sprinkle room and put in a couple of additional fire doors. Facilities is working on getting some of this done. Paulson asked if these changes will involve any large monetary spending, and DeMares stated that it will cost around \$20,000 for the electrical locks but that they were going to do this eventually anyway. The fire doors will cost approximately \$15,000.

Schuler announced that Dr. Peter Geiss, Chief Medical Officer of ProHealth Care, will be joining the Health and Human Services Board.

Farrell welcomed Jim Behrend as the new Register of Deeds for Waukesha County.

COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

Ordinance 163-O-069: Modify the ADRC Nutrition Fund 2008 Budget to Increase Revenues and Appropriate Additional Expenditures for the Elderly Home Delivered Meal Program.

Bellovary reviewed the ordinance. Paulson asked about the additional \$4,100 in personnel costs. Smith explained that staff work about 4 to 5 hours per day. As the number of meals increase, additional staff time is needed to accomplish this. Also, there is a increase in mileage as well. Many people were delivering meals without asking for mileage reimbursement, but when the price of gas became so high, many more were turning in mileage expenses. There have been added clients due to COP and also more coming in who are not eligible for Family Care, but are eligible for meals. Yerke asked why the ADRC didn't see this coming early – in September rather than in November and Smith stated that because of lag time in reporting and donations, they didn't see a whole lot of change in the transition to Family Care in the first three months, but the numbers just grew more than they anticipated. Family Care started in July and it took about two months just to get the billing straightened out. Because of the new venture, we saw some beginnings of growth but not to this extent. They are also not receiving as much in donations as they had been because of the economy. Yerke asked if the 2009 budget is on target and Smith stated that probably not because they were using numbers in July to base the budget figures on. Bellovary stated that the ADRC did not want to put people on a waiting list for food. Yerke asked for more timely updates in the future. Schuler stated that we are transitioning 300+ clients per month into Family Care. If this ordinance is not approved, we will have to put people on a wait list for food.

MOTION: Brandtjen made a motion seconded by Jeskewitz to approve Ordinance 163-O-069. Motion carried 6-0.

JOINT AGENDA ITEMS

Overview of Specialized Transportation

Judy Roehm and Linda Grimm from the ADRC presented on this topic. Judy is one of the ADRC Specialists and transportation is one of her main responsibilities. Linda takes the phone calls for specialized transportation.

Roehm and Grimm began their presentation with a review of the taxi programs. This information is all provided in the handout given on specialized transportation services. There was also a handout on the 2008 fares and an eligibility application. The Taxi Program is for Waukesha County residents, who are non or limited drivers, age 65 years or older, and able to enter or exit an automobile with little or no assistance. The program is also available to residents who are non drivers between 18 and 65, able to enter or exit an automobile with little or no assistance and receive either SSI or SSDI benefits.

The Rideline Van Program is for Waukesha County residents, who are non or limited drivers, age 65 years or older, unable to enter or exit an automobile and require an accessible vehicle, or have no taxi service in their community, or need to travel outside of the taxi service area. The program is also available to residents who are non-drivers under the age of 65 years, unable to enter or exit an automobile and use either a wheelchair, scooter, cane, walker, crutches or are legally blind. Service to adjoining county is only for second opinions, consultations, or service NOT duplicated in Waukesha County with prior approval.

There is also the Waukesha Metro-Lift which provides curb to curb service. This is a wonderful service that is underutilized. Bob Johnson does what he can to promote the service by going out to housing units to let people know about the service. Clients can download the application, but have to print it out as it cannot be completed online. They have to mail or fax it in.

The ADRC receives many requests to go out of county for medical appointments. This coverage is determined on a case by case basis. Many clients go to Froedtert and they call for pre-approval for rides to Milwaukee County. Because there is no VA hospital in Waukesha County, rides will be approved for the VA trips. The VA has a van service, but if you take it, you're there for the day. The VA charges \$35.00 from Waukesha County to the VA Hospital. The VA Hospital doesn't pick up clients at the door, they have to be picked up at a stop which is difficult for many people especially in inclement weather.

Bellovary stated that the ADRC is working with Interfaith for those rides that go to Froedtert. Interfaith also assists younger people who need to get family members to the doctor or go to court. The collaboration with Interfaith has worked very well. They also have a program with Park and Rec to assist people in taking the Metro. The ADRC also offers some bus tickets for one way travel, if a client can be dropped off but can't be picked up.

When Jaske asked about collecting fares, Bellovary stated that the client has to show their subsidized taxi card and they have to sign a voucher. The client has to pay the fare directly to the cab driver. She stated that there were 50,000 taxi rides and every voucher is checked. Under the Rideline van Program there are two options. Option A allows them not to divulge their financial information, but requires them to pay the higher fare range, which is still highly discounted. Option B allows clients to list their financial information for the ADRC and this information is used to determine their fares based upon their ability to pay. It is an advantage for us not to have them attempt to drive. Dialysis is a very common trip. If a client is going from a nursing home to the doctor, they must be accompanied by a certified nursing assistant. A trip to ProHealth is \$5.00 per trip but they are re-evaluating their cost. They have been spending a lot every year. We would struggle if we didn't have the ProHealth transportation.

Adjournment

MOTION: Brandtjen made a motion seconded by Yerke to adjourn the official meeting of the Committee. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Jeskewitz made a motion seconded by Vitale to adjourn the official meeting of the Board. Motion carried 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m. to head to Lutheran Social Services for a tour of the facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved on:_____

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary